

#6/USE  
12/11/01  
PATENT

Customer Number: 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7040.0023.01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Renato CARETTA et al. )  
)  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned ) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
)  
Filed: April 24, 2001 ) Examiner: Not yet assigned  
)  
For: A METHOD FOR MAKING )  
TIRES FOR VEHICLE WHEELS )

J1033 U.S. PTO  
09/840095  
04/24/01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Forms PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement ("Statement") is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents were previously submitted, considered, and/or cited by the Examiner in a prior application, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/219,422, filed December 23, 1998, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached forms.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any

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claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 24, 2001

By:   
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